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In many areas, feudalistic irrigation control systems have been replaced by centralized systems. Plans were laid for extension of installations and equipment and improvement of control systems during the coming year.

**FORESTRY ACTIVITIES SUCCESSFUL -- Hong Kong, Wen-hui Pao, 21 Oct 50**

Hankow, 20 October -- During 1950, efforts to preserve and extend forest areas in Central and South China have achieved very encouraging results. In some areas, forest-protection police units have been set up and in many areas forest-protection committees are functioning.

In Central Honan on both sides of the Lung-hai Railway farmers have planted 2,360,000 trees this year, thus bringing much sandy land into use. Over 1,070,000 trees were planted during dike repair work around the Tung-t'ing Lake in Hunan. Tung oil trees have also been planted on both sides of 1,700 kilometers of highways in this province. Central and South China has 170 million mou of forest land, and 530 million mou more of mountain areas could be afforested for a total of more than 31 percent of the land surface of the area.

**REPORTS IMPROVEMENT IN RICE CROP -- Shanghai, Hsin-wen Jih, 5 Sep 50**

Chen-chiang, Kiangsu -- Through government loans of seed and fertilizer, and active cultivating on the part of peasants, this year's crop of rice will break all previous records. The best results will be from Medium Farmer No 2 Improved Rice Seed, producing 220 or more grains for every grain planted. This is nearly twice the yield given by local seed. Looking forward to next year's planting, the Chen-chiang city government, on 28 August, issued a directive on selecting seed, asking each locality to set up a seed-judging committee made up from local production interests, labor heroes, experienced farmers, etc. This group will be responsible for the selection of good seed.

**CENTRAL AND SOUTH CHINA HARVEST AND PLANT -- Hong Kong, Wen-hui Pao, 24 Sep 50**

Hankow, 23 September (Hsin-hua) -- The farmers of the Central and South China area are busily engaged in the autumn harvest and preparation of the ground for the next crop. In the paddy rice area of the Yangtze River valley, most of the rice has been completely harvested and the planting of buckwheat and green vegetables for a late crop is in progress.

In Honan and Northern Hupeh, the kaoliang, millet, and corn have been threshed and stored in the granaries. The vast populace is now picking cotton and preparing the soil for late autumn crops. Everywhere local militia forces have been organized to guard the crops and eliminate KMT special agents, and to guard against the activities of reactionary landlords.

The rice crop in Hunan is 2 billion catties greater than last year. The yield in Kiangsi is about 90 percent of a full crop, sufficient to meet the quota estimate. The cotton yield of the whole area is approximately one third greater than last year.

The farmers are rapidly adding to their equipment with a view to greater production. Seed selection is in progress under the guidance of the local authorities. Government loans of seeds and fertilizer are being liberally granted.

- 2 -

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NEW LAND UNDER CULTIVATION IN NORTHEAST -- Hong Kong, Wen-hui Pao, 3 Sep 50

Mukden, 1 September (Hsin-hua) -- During the spring and summer, the farmers of the Northeast have put 5,397,000 mou of virgin land under the plow, bringing the area cultivated in the Northeast to 155,300,000 mou. During 1948 and 1949, a total of 14,723,000 mou of new land was opened. In the widespread untilled areas of the northern provinces of Heilungkiang and Sungkiang, 2,937,000 mou have been opened this year. This represents an increase of tilled land in the two provinces of 4-5 percent. The increased yield from the new land in Sungkiang Province is estimated at 161,400 tons.

NORTHEAST SETS 1950 AGRICULTURAL GOALS -- Shanghai, Lao-tung Pao, 9 Jun 50

The following goals for 1950 agriculture in the Northeast have been announced by the authorities: 17,200,000 shang under cultivation /1 shang equals 7 mou/, 234,000 shang under cotton, 97,000 shang under hemp, and 18 million tons of grain to be produced. This is a 37 percent increase over 1949.

NORTHEAST REJOICES OVER BUMPER CROP -- Hong Kong, Wen-hui Pao, 6 Sep 50

Mukden, 5 September (Hsin-hua) -- There is prospect of bumper yields of all types of grain in the whole Northeast this year. It is regarded as one of the best crop prospects ever seen there. Kaffir corn heads are said to weigh half a catty, millet heads to reach a foot in length, and corn is yielding three ears to a stalk. The prospect is for at least an 85-percent yield which will be 20 percent above last year.

The farmers are making eager preparations for the harvest. Even Jehol, which frequently suffers from crop calamities, appears to be in line for a good crop this year. The cooperatives, laying in large supplies of harvesting tools, find them purchased immediately by the peasants.

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- 3 -

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